

REMARKS

In the Office Action, all of the claims were rejected in view of the proposed combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,963,864 to O'Neil et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,073,029 to Smith et al. In the Office Action, it was admitted that O'Neil et al. fails to teach dual ringing of a Centrex line and a wireless extension of the Centrex line. In an attempt to cure this deficiency, O'Neil et al. was combined with Smith et al. However, because Smith et al. teaches against the very combination proposed in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections against the claims be removed.

Independent Claims 1, 5, and 15 each recite that a service node, which is separate from an SSP, initiates calls to both a Centrex line and a wireless extension of the Centrex line.

Independent Claim 18 uses the broader language of a network element separate from a switch instead of service node and SSP. In contrast to the claimed inventions, Smith et al. teaches that the SSP — not a service node or some network element separate from the switch — initiates calls to a Centrex line and a wireless device. As shown in Figure 5 and at col. 6, lines 6-9, the PBX switch 42, which would be an SSP in a Centrex environment, initiates calls to both the desktop station 43 and wireless handset 46.

To yield the claimed invention, the system in Smith et al. would need to be modified so that a service node or some other network element separate from a switch initiates the calls.

However, Smith et al. teaches against the very modification proposed in the Office Action.

Specifically, Smith et al. clearly and repeatedly states that the SSP is the device that initiates the calls. See col. 5, lines 13-15 (“the Centrex network is always served directly by the Class 5 SSP switch 50 for call processing and features”) and col. 5, line 18 (“All calls to the Centrex users are controlled by the SSP 50”). By using such absolute language as “always served” and “all calls,”


Smith et al. makes crystal clear that initiating calls to a Centrex line and a wireless device must be performed by the SSP. This very clear and strong language shows that using a service node or some other network element external to the SSP is not an acceptable modification. Because Smith et al. teaches away from the very modification proposed in the Office Action, one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine O'Neil et al. and Smith et al. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims be withdrawn.

Lastly, Applicants note that citation A30 was not initialed on the 1449 Form returned by the Examiner. Since the Examiner did not give a reason why A30 was not initialed, Applicants assume that the citation is in order and respectfully request that the Examiner initial this citation and return a copy of the initialed 1449 Form to Applicants with the next communication.

If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is asked to phone the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4719.

Dated: October 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph F. Hetz
Reg. No. 41,070
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER
GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, Illinois 60610
(312) 321-4719